

LITERARY NOTES.

The Harpers will publish next week the life of Chinese Gordon, by Archibald Forbes, with twenty illustrations, including a birdseye view of the Nile and the Egyptian Soudan.

The book on Margaret Fuller which Colonel Higginson is preparing is founded on new material, and will contain her diaries and many letters never yet printed. Some of these are addressed to her husband.

An editorial writer in *The London Daily News* is not disposed to "take a back seat" in comparing the great men of Great Britain with those of America. "We," he says, "can set Mr. Ruskin against Mr. Richard Grant White, Mr. Matthew Arnold against Mr. Stedman, Mr. George Meredith to pair off with Mr. Howells, while Mr. Browning and the Laureate correspond to Dr. Holmes and Mr. Lowell. Comparisons are odious, but the company would have many pleasant elements in which all these gentlemen met."

Mr. Andrew Carnegie's "Round the World," a volume privately printed several years ago, has been revised and enlarged and will shortly be published by Charles Scribner's Sons.

An edition de luxe of Pepys's Diary is to be brought out soon by Dodd, Mead & Co.

One reason why the production of three-volume novels has almost ceased to be a paying business in England is that the country newspapers are now publishing so many serials. A local paper costing only a penny a week gives in each issue not only liberal instalments of two novels, but the news of the neighborhood and the world, humorous extracts and clever original articles. *The London Spectator* declares that these papers are creating all over England a taste for wholesome fiction, and that their example may not improbably be followed by some of the dailies, and it adds: "The demand for serial fiction is unquestionably on the increase, and it is in this direction that novelists must seek compensation for the decline of the three-volume novel. If they are wise, they will form themselves into an association similar to the French Society of Gens de Lettres, and by dealing directly with newspaper proprietors, add to their earnings the very considerable profits at present gained by professional 'purveyors of fiction.'"

Mr. Lafadio Hearn, of New Orleans, one of the most original and thoroughly-read of our literary men, has a quaint book in the press of J. R. Osgood & Co. It is a collection of queer, out-of-the-way bits of literature which are at present unknown to most English-reading people.

The American public will assuredly not suffer for lack of the reminiscences of Lord Ronald Gower. An edition from the press of Roberts Brothers was published last week; and now another is announced by Scribner & Welford.

General Gordon's "Reflections in Palestine" reveal the childlike simplicity of his religious faith, and though not eloquent are interesting as representative of the writer—a poor and noble character. "Here and there," says a reviewer in the *St. James's Gazette*, "we are surprised by words which recall the anchorite rather than the man of action, and show us Gordon in the character of one of the old Cossacks. 'Why drag this corpse about?' he cries. 'It emits the odors of corruption; it is heavy and troublesome; why not quicken it!' And other passages, again, are obscure to a degree which makes us almost doubt whether the author knew his own meaning. The soul, Gordon thinks, remains asleep and sinless in a sinful body till wakened before or after death by the breath of God. This is a beautiful allegory, if it be meant as such, but the author seems to have a more material meaning. 'This view,' he says, with almost pathetic simplicity, 'conformed me, for I did not like to think the soul a sinner.'

Mr. Charles Reade did not leave a very large fortune. It does not amount to more than \$100,000, and it goes to his brother, his nephews and his nieces. He is said to have lost much money in his theatrical speculations. He ended invariably to go to the rehearsals of his plays, and was always the first. Mr. Lubbock says, to recognize humble merit. On one occasion the girl playing a small servant's part had to be on the stage, whilst another was fondling a doll which represented her offspring. Charles Reade was narrowly watching the bye-play, and the next day the girl received a little bracelet from him, accompanied by a note congratulating her upon the affectionate manner in which she had glanced at the doll, and telling her that if she only persevered in playing the smallest parts, with feeling she would live to be a great actress.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

The Atlantic Monthly, by Horatio Walpole, Jr., pp. 176. (Philadelphia: Foote & Coates.) *Picture-Book*, Washington, by Joseph West Moore, 4to, pp. 308. (Providence: J. A. & R. Reid.)

The True Theory of the Sun, by Thomas Bassett, Sov. pp. 236. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

Public Life in England, by Philippe Daryl, Translated by E. F. Dyer, 12mo, pp. 295. (George Routledge & Sons.)

The American Authors, Vol. 3, 16mo, pp. 180. (Charles Scribner's Sons.)

Chapters in Popular Natural History, by Sir John Lubbock, 16mo, pp. 223. (Thomas Whittaker.)

Letters to Cardinal M. Crowley, by the Rev. J. O'Connor, 16mo, pp. 200. Paper. ("The Courier" Religious Publishing Office.)

The Woman Question in Europe, Edited by Theodore Stanton, with an Introduction by Frances Power Cobbe, Large Sov. pp. 472. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

Reminiscences, by Lord Ronald Gower, F. S. A., In two vols., Vol. 1, Sov. pp. 323. (Boston: Roberts Bros.)

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